

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

## Politics and General Literature.

VOL. II.]

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1822.

[No. 78]

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—325—

#### Politics of Europe.

*Sir Robert Wilson.*—The friends of Sir Robert Wilson have been idly clamouring about the mode of his dismissal from the army. Why not try him by a Court Martial, they cry, or call upon him to clear himself before a Court of Enquiry? An intelligent correspondent has given a decisive answer to these questions. Sir Robert, being upon half-pay, was not amenable to the Articles of War. This opinion was pronounced by the late Attorney General upon the trial of Lieutenant Colonel Abernethy, of the Marines; but it rests upon still higher authority. In April, 1785, in the case of General Ross, on the question whether General Ross, as an officer on half-pay, was subject to the tribunal of a Court Martial, the twelve Judges gave a unanimous opinion that he was not, as a half-pay officer, subject to military law. That his Majesty, in the exercise of his just prerogative, had an undoubted right to dismiss Sir Robert, no one disputes; but it is important to know likewise that there existed no other lawful course by which that end could be accomplished, except such exercise of the Royal prerogative.—*Courier.*

*Sir Robert Wilson.*—Whether in making these remarks, the COURIER and his intelligent Correspondent, were guilty of gross ignorance or of wilful falsehood, we pretend not to determine. We are quite certain however that they have misquoted the law, and misrepresented facts. Sir Robert Wilson might have been tried by a Court Martial. In his character as a Regimental Officer on half-pay, he was not, but in his other character, as holding the Brevet Commission of Major General, he was amenable to Military Law. This distinction is clearly laid down in Tyler's Essay on Military Law, page 112, and in M'Arthur, page 196. So much for the COURIER's law. Let us now proceed to his facts. On the trial of Lieutenant Colonel Abernethy, of the Marines, the late Attorney General did not pronounce it as his opinion that an Officer on half-pay, holding a Brevet Commission superior to his corps-rank, was not amenable to Military Law. The case was this:—Savage, a Major in the Marines, upon half-pay, and a Lieutenant Colonel by Brevet, in the Army, exhibited a charge against Lieut. Colonel Abernethy before a Court Martial, for provoking him to fight a duel. By the wording of the Marine Mutiny Act, an Officer in the Marine Corps is subject to certain penalties, if he provoke another Marine Officer to fight, but is not subject to any penalty for provoking a person not a Marine Officer to fight. The question therefore put to the late Attorney General by the Court Martial which sat on Col. Abernethy was, whether Col. Savage, whom he had provoked to fight a duel, was or was not an Officer of Marines, according to the meaning of the Statute? The Attorney-General decided that Lieut. Col. Savage, as a half-pay Major of Marines, was not, in a legal sense, an Officer in that Corps; but he did not, and could not decide that Lieut. Colonel Savage, holding a Brevet Commission superior to his corps-rank, was not amenable to Military Law.

But the COURIER has a case of still greater authority than that of Lieutenant-Colonel Abernethy. He says—"In 1805, in the case of General Ross, on the question whether General Ross, an Officer on half-pay, was subject to the tribunal of a Court-Martial, the twelve Judges gave an unanimous opinion that he was not, as a half-pay Officer, subject to Military Law." Our readers will scarcely believe us, when we state that this case of high authority occurred previous to the change in the Mutiny Act which rendered Officers holding Brevet Commissions amenable to

Military Law. But such is the fact. The case of Gen. Ross was referred to the Judges in April 1785; the Law was altered in March 1786!

Such, in point of law and in point of fact is the miserable defence which the COURIER sets up for Ministers! Sir Robert Wilson, holding a Brevet Commission as a Major-General, might have been brought before a Court Martial. There was no excuse for trying this brave man by a secret tribunal, and passing sentence upon him without a hearing. The whole transaction is worthy of the infatuated Ministers from whom it emanates. It is worthy of the faction which obtained power by defaming, and retained it by destroying, the injured Queen of England;—it is worthy of those who violated the principles of regular Government and social order, by attempting to erect the Legislature into a revolutionary tribunal for punishing, by *ex-post facto* and arbitrary decisions, alleged offences not cognizable by the law,—it is worthy of those who denounced the witnesses of the first conspiracy for perjury, and who then recommended them for pensions,—and it is worthy of the meanest and most contemptible Oligarchy which ever misgoverned a country.

The Resolution to the High Bailiff of Southwark, for calling a Meeting of the Electors for the purpose of opening a subscription for Sir Robert Wilson, is most numerously and respectfully signed. Similar meetings will, no doubt, be held all over England, for the same most laudable purpose. We have received a communication upon the subject of the subscription from a distinguished friend of his country, who promises to contribute. We give his sentiments in his own energetic words:—"If Blades and Co. can raise 1,000*l.* we can raise 10,000*l.* the interest of which will be given to Sir Robert Wilson, and the remainder in trust for his children. I consider them now as the children of the people, and shall be ready to show that I do so. I mean, of course, to subscribe, and mark my contempt and abhorrence of this last act of insolent oppression." Thus the plan works well. Every friend of freedom throughout the country will contribute according to his means to the rational object of placing Sir Robert Wilson above the reach of Ministerial vengeance.—*Traveller.*

*Brief Sketch of the Life of Sir Robert Wilson.*—Sir Robert Wilson became coronet in a regiment of Dragoons in 1794; and a few months afterwards, together with Sir William Keir, now commanding in India, and six other officers, rescued the Emperor of Germany when taken prisoner in battle, from the hands of the enemy. This little band cut him out, as the sailors say, and brought him away safe. The importance of such a service, not only to the immediate object of it but to the allied cause, may well be conceived, when we reflect on the advantage the French Republicans would have had in possessing the person of one of the first sovereigns combined against them. For this glorious exploit he and his bold comrades received the Knighthood of the Order of Maria Theresa. Afterwards, Sir Robert served in Egypt, with the greatest distinction; and his history of that campaign shows that like the ancients he carried letters into the camp, and could record with ease those exploits which he witnessed and achieved. In the war of the Peninsula, Sir Robert took a distinguished part, and protected, if he did not save from ruin, Lord Wellington's army, after the battle of Talavera. After that battle we were obliged to retreat with so much speed as to be under the necessity of abandoning our sick and wounded. As Lord Wellington was retreating, Marshal Victor (we believe it was) at the head of a corps d'armee, advanced through Estremadura, with a view to cut off his retreat;

but Sir Robert, with a small body of Portuguese troops, called the Lusitanian legion, stopped Viator several days in the pass of Banos, and thus saved the English army. This service has been thought too great not to excite the jealousy of the General who owed so much to it. The General praised him in the Gazette as a good partisan officer, and Sir Robert was not long employed in Spain. Neither our limits nor our knowledge enable us to give any thing even like a sketch of this officer's multifarious services in Flanders, Egypt, Spain, Russia, and Germany, but we could not on the present occasion refrain from recalling to the minds of our readers those few traits of his character and conduct.—*Ibid.*

*Lord Cochrane.*—Our readers will have seen by some letters from Valparaiso, inserted in THE TIMES of yesterday,\* that Lord COCHRANE has been detaining British ships, and British seamen, engaged in traffic along the coast and in the harbours of Peru. There are two grounds, and only two, on which we apprehend that Lord COCHRANE could attempt to justify the detention of our merchantmen. 1st. That they had been seized in an actual violation of the blockade which he has established against the Spanish ports. This is the most simple view of the question, insomuch that if an absolute blockade were duly promulgated, and exceptions made in favour of any given flag, the mere endeavour to enter would justify the interruption of the voyage on the part of the blockading officer. But the detention of the *Edward Ellice* is placed on other grounds by the published correspondence. In that case the question is, whether, although the vessel be British, the cargo is, or is not, Spanish property? This country was reproached, during the last French war, with enforcing a principle unknown to the law of nations—viz., that an enemy's property was not protected from capture by the circumstance of its being transported under a neutral flag; but so far from this principle being made for the occasion, because it happened to favour the interests of Great Britain, or being insisted on purely because she had the power to enforce it, there is no right more distinctly asserted and defined by the best authority on the law of nations. To go no further than VATTEL, who is in the hands of every one, we find the following short and decisive passage (see B. III. ch. vii. p. 339):—“If we find an enemy's effects on board a neutral ship, we seize them by the rights of war;” the right, however, is qualified as follows:—“But we are naturally bound to pay the freight to the master of the vessel, who is not to suffer by such seizure.” We quote this passage to satisfy two classes of persons. 1st. Those who have accused England of injustice in her former treatment of neutral powers and their flags. 2. Those Englishmen who may now, when the case becomes their own, murmur at being crossed in their trade by the application of the same established principle on which England herself has acted. British merchants cannot afford to be unjust; for justice is the common interest of all merchants of every nation. If the officers of Chili, therefore, shall bring clear proof that the flag of England has in the case or cases alluded to been made the cover for a cargo *bons fide* Spanish, neither the detention of the ship nor the condemnation of the cargo can be considered a grievance by our countrymen. We are the more inclined to say thus much upon the question of right, from observing that the writer of the letters which we published yesterday, after referring to the general opinion of the British officers on that station, that property captured under such circumstances would be fairly condemned upon our own maritime law, adds his own satisfaction at finding that Sir T. HARDY, (an active and meritorious officer,) “takes the question in a different light,” and in consideration of the sufferings of British merchants for some years past, feels it his duty to uphold British ships in carrying for all nations, provided it is, as in the writer's case, “in the name” of a British House of Commerce; but “the name” is not enough, and ought not to be so; if the name be a mere colour, it ought to pass for nothing more; nor can we consent, even in policy, to justify a construction of the law which might indeed be beneficial to the country in the present instance, but would be reproachful to her past conduct, and a fatal prece-

dent for the future. The more reasonable and sober doubt upon the immediate question as to the sufficiency of Lord COCHRANE's proof without which Sir T. HARDY will have the fairest ground for resisting the condemnation of the cargoes; nor are suspicions wanting that his Lordship was not himself quite persuaded of the Spanish ownership at the time when he seized the *Edward Ellice*, from his apparent unwillingness to suffer any communication between her Captain and the Commander of a British man of war (Captain SEARLE,) in sight at the moment of the capture. Had Lord COCHRANE been less mindful that might on some occasions constitutes right, he had it in his power to illustrate the principle on which he professed to act in a manner more noble, because somewhat more hazardous, than by the service of a defenceless merchantman. Captains SEARLE and SHIRREFF, as we have been informed, were both employed in loading Spanish property, (dollars to wit,) at the time when the vessels of the merchants were captured by Lord COCHRANE, on suspicion only of the same offence. But to pass from these particular cases to a more general view of this subject of neutral navigation to South America, is it not a question worth the examining, whether an immediate exercise of the right (suppose it to be obtained by treaty with the Chilians) of carrying Spanish property under license to Peru, would not, in its ultimate effects, be injurious to the interests of our commerce? The great and standing object of British policy, in respect of South America, ought to be the enjoyment of a free trade with the interior of that immense and most productive Continent. Ought it not, therefore, to be the desire of our merchants that the Spanish monopoly of its commerce should cease? And why attempt to carry on a partial intercourse with Lima, the supply of which capital must retard, perhaps indefinitely, the operation of the Patriotic armies against it, and delay proportionably that wished-for hour at which the British flag may become the common carrier for Peru, and the instrument of its new and unbounded commerce?—*Times.*

*Lord Cochrane.*—We inserted three days ago a series of letters from Valparaiso, describing the circumstances under which certain British merchantmen had been seized and detained by Lord Cochrane and the Chilian squadron. In arguing yesterday on the above subject, we felt rather disposed to take for granted that the justice of the case was with Lord Cochrane so far as concerned the ships and cargoes in question. We now present a letter from his Lordship, which sanctions and corroborates our own view of the matter.\* He asserts distinctly, that the neutral vessels which daily drop into his hands are laden with the goods of almost every European country but Great Britain; and, “strange to say,” writes his Lordship, “it is chiefly British merchants who cloak this property, to the destruction of the manufactures and honest commerce of their countrymen.” His Lordship then alludes apparently to the two ships lately seized, which he states to be worth half a million of dollars, to have sailed from Cadiz, and but touched at Gibraltar, when they carried out false papers as if they had been loading there. This brings the case within the pale of fraud, the lawful punishment of which, no honest Englishman will be found to murmur at or resent. We have hitherto confined our observations to the ships and cargoes made prize of by Lord Cochrane: but there is another part of the subject, at present more doubtful, and of a more serious nature—we mean the forcible capture and detention of the English seamen found on board the ships. We do not yet see what defence can be made for these acts of coercion practised upon our countrymen; but as Sir T. HARDY has interested himself warmly on the subject, the proper redress will, no doubt, be produced by his interference.—*Times.*

*Length of Memory.*—Two beggars, whose aims depended much upon their longevity, got into a quarrel of years, and wrangled upon the precedence of age; “Pooh!” said the one to the other, “you are not so old as me, I remember the mirk (dark) Monday!” “D——n it,” quoth the second, “the mirk Monday!” I remember since there were no Mondays at all!!—*Lit. Gaz.*

\* Republished in the JOURNAL of Saturday.

\* See this Letter in to-day's JOURNAL, page 326.

*Letter from Calcutta.*—Extract of a Letter from Calcutta, dated February 22, 1821:—

Government Bonds were yesterday at the astonishing rate of fifteen per cent. premium !!

The political topics of your letters will be out of date with you long before any notice from hence can reach you; it is almost the same with the conditions of the commercial; but the economical or the literary are both *more* enduring. Any disquisition on the former, would be "stale, flat, and unprofitable," before our distant comment or caution could be seen by you; the other subjects have a lasting importance, and a permanent interest for us all, in every quarter of the globe. The notion of the derivation of the language of Rome from the Norman dialect of Russia, or Scavonia, appears to be whimsical, and must be well defended before it can stand up against the disposition to scepticism, and the revocation it will give for the ridicule of the small wit of school and college. Perhaps a more direct and more certain origin of the Latin speech may be shewn. Many conclusions drawn from multifarious reading, incline some of us to determine that the Romans were a tribe of Goths, which having crossed the Alps, at a very early period of post diluvian time, established themselves amidst the ruins of an Etrurian Empire, destroyed, most probably, by some civil convulsion.—The root or principle of the Latin language, as well as of the Pelasgic Greek, is essentially Gothic. By this term is meant that tongue, speech, or dialect, which spread itself from Iran westward, into Europe, and eastward into Hindostan.\* A letter will not admit the proofs which should be brought to support this hypothesis. Supposing it to be well-founded, it would be easy to conceive how the Russian nation embodied into their speech a multitude of words originally Gothic, and *thence* by the migration supposed originally Latin. A people nearly illiterate, and of the simplest and rudest habits, must augment their vocabulary, when new objects requiring a vocal expression are introduced among them; and it is natural, or almost inevitable, that these *terms* should be borrowed from the nation which may impart the novel conceptions. With us, every term of civil, social and domestic life, above the peasant of the field, is *Norman*, while all the appellations of of rural habit continue to be *Saxon*.—We have only to assume the bodies of the Goths (a cultivated race) "were successively in the contact of some intercourse with the tribes of the Scavons, and it would follow, as a certain consequence, that a great proportion of Gothic words would be engrrafted on the ruder or poorer tongue."

The resemblance between the Scavonic, Gothic, and Greek languages, was remarked by LEIBNITZ, more than a century ago. He observes, "*In Slavonica lingua multa sunt communis originis cum Germanie, nonnulla et cum Graecis.*"—The resemblance between Russian and any of the Gothic languages is not limited, as our correspondent imagines, to words common to both, but extends also to the grammatical construction, which supposes an original connection; but the limited idea of Mr. GALLIFFE, that one particular language of a class, namely, the Latin, is *derived* from Russian, could only have been started in this country, where comparatively so little attention is bestowed on philological researches. In Germany, or even Denmark and Sweden, where the relations which these languages bear to one another is better understood, such an idea could never have been broached. There is not one of the Gothic languages which may not, on the same principle, be made to be derived from the Polish, Russian, or other Scavonic languages, as the Polish or Russian may, with equal ease, be made to be derived from Greek, Latin, German, Icelandie, &c. The Russian resembles the Latin in having no article; but in the declension of its nouns, the conjugation of its verbs, &c. it is more like the German, Icelandie, &c. The relation between the Gothic languages and the Greek and Latin, which have been called branches of the Thracian language, and the Scavonic languages, has been traced with great learning and

ability by RASK, a Danish writer, in a work published at Copenhagen in 1818, under the title of "*Undersøgelse om det gamle Nordiske eller Islandske Sprogs oprindelse.*" (Inquiry into the Origin of the old Northern on Icelandic language).—*Morn. Chron.*

*Military and Civil Power.*—We presume from the silence of the Ministerial Papers, with respect to the progress of the Subscriptions commenced by Mr. BLADES, that the Merchants and Bankers of the Metropolis have generally lent a deaf ear to the appeals so urgently made to them on this subject. The Ministerial Papers will tell us, no doubt, that the greater honour will be reaped by Mr. BLADES. We trust that our Merchants and Bankers will never be desirous of the honour to be gained by countenancing the idea that Soldiers in array may act against their fellow-citizens, without the authority of a Magistrate; and if resisted, may become the authors of a *dreadful carnage* of them, by way of sacrificing to their *just resentment*.

Whenever the Military are in future called out (and we are not sanguine enough to hope for the discontinuance of the practice of employing them in lieu of the Civil Power), they will naturally expect a similar reward if the *carnage* does not happen to be *dreadful*, taught as they now are that every one, who, after coming in contact with them, continues to wear his head on his shoulders, is indebted for it to their generosity. We are far from imputing to the military a sanguinary disposition; but we should like to know what other conclusion they can draw from the reward now proposed, coupled with the principle on which it is given.

We have observed, that we despair of seeing an end put to the dangerous and unconstitutional practice of employing the Military in place of the Civil Power, THE COURIER tells us, "that a Constable, with a staff in his hand, is easily overpowered but a single Horseman will drive two or three hundred of the mob before him like so many geese;" and this Ministers, no doubt, also think. But the experiment may fail if tried too often. The people of this country have never seriously thought of resisting Military, and therefore two hundred of them may fly like geese before a single Horseman. They put their protection in the laws, and not in their own prowess; they carry no arms, either openly or concealed, and when, accidentally, brought into contact with soldiers, they have no other weapons than such missiles as they can collect on the spot. But if they should ever be brought to entertain the conviction that the laws afford them no protection against personal violence, and such scenes as that of the 14th are but to well calculated to produce such a conviction, we may be rest assured, that the charm which enables one Horseman to drive two or three hundred men before him like so many geese, would soon be dispelled. The first sight of a horseman filled the South Americans with dread; but, in the course of time, they got used to the sight. In the rebellion in Ireland the peasantry were not long in finding out how to arrest cavalry. Parties of German Boors, armed only with pitchforks, more than once within the last ten years opposed themselves to cavalry parties. The Scots Highlanders had a superstitious dread of cavalry at one time, till they were cured of it by conflicts with this description of force. The people of England are not more dull or more cowardly than their neighbours; and, the fewer the experiments of the nature of that of the 14th which are made on them, the better will it be for all parties.

It is well observed by the correspondent of a Ministerial Morning Paper, "that the population of this country does not, like those on the Continent, consist of the extremes of King and Nobility, in contact with peasants and artizans. There is with us a vast gap between these extremes, filled up by gentry, yeomen, merchants, stockholders, manufacturers, agriculturists, including the industrious classes." If these classes, which give to the Government of this country so much greater strength than is possessed by any of the Governments of the Continent, should become generally hostile to it, the military force would soon be found of little avail. This idea does not, however, seem to have presented itself to the minds of Ministers, or they would hardly have dared to brave public opinion, in the manner they have done of late.—*Morning Chronicle.*

\* This supposition, says the Gentleman to whom we are indebted for the above extract, may be found to help to confirm the hypothesis of Mr. Galliffe, that the Latin language has a Scavonic derivation, or some ancient mixture or affinity with it.

**Bad's the Best.**

*Etas parentum, pror avis, tuit  
Nos nequiores.—Hor. Lib. iii. Od. 6.*

*Our Grandfathers were bad, our Sires were worse,  
And we, in fuller measure, bear the curse;  
But "bad's the best," take WISDOM\* to the letter,  
And if 'tis so, the worse we are the better!*

The State of the Country can ne'er be alarming,  
When MINISTERS tell us that *bad* is so charming;  
And crops being *bad* is so far from distressing,  
The people (if grateful) should think it a blessing!  
If this be the case—and 'tis pleasant to know—  
What comfort their measures are like to bestow!  
Bad policy's good, wrongs oppressive are right,  
And corruption is soundness, and darkness is light;—  
Each bad thing is good—they perceive it no doubt—  
And grievous it is, that we can't find it out!  
But this love for the *bad*, tho' in them 'tis judicious,  
Has a look interested, and something suspicious;  
For admit *bad* is *best*, without any misgiving,  
And they are the worthiest Ministers living!

\* So Lord LIVERPOOL à la lettre. See his opinion, and of course his colleagues, that our distresses last year arose from our crops being too good, i. e. that an abundant harvest is the cause of starvation.

**Lord Cochrane.**

*To the Editor of the Times.*

SIR,

As the detention of some British merchant ships by Lord Cochrane has occasioned considerable animadversion, I shall feel much obliged by your inserting, in justification of his Lordship's conduct, the following extract from a letter from his Lordship, which, I received this morning. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

110. Strand, Sept. 6, 1821.

SAMUEL BROOKS.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM LORD COCHRANE TO MR. BROOKS, DATED APRIL 8, 1821.

"Neutral vessels are daily dropping into our hands, laden with Spanish, French, Italian, and other goods on Spanish account; but in these there is scarcely an article of British manufacture; and, strange to tell, it is chiefly British merchants who cloak this property to the destruction of the manufacturing and honest commerce of their countrymen. One ——, of London, and the house of —— at Gibraltar, are great people in these dealings. I have lately seized two of their ships, worth half a million of dollars, from Cadiz; they called at Gibraltar, and took out false papers as if they had loaded there. I doubt not but you will see a deal of this in the papers, and if you do, I wish you would just let these facts be known."

**Peru and Chili.**

EXTRACT OF A LETTER WRITTEN ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP OWEN GLENDOWER.

Callao, April 5.—On our arrival at Valparaiso we heard of the brilliant affair of cutting the *Esmeralda* out of Callao (the port of Lima), which Lord Cochrane has since declared to Captain Hill to have been the hardest fighting he ever was engaged in. The accounts of it have of course appeared in the English papers. His squadron has been ever since in the neighbourhood of Lima; in fact actually blockading it, with the exception of a few weeks' unsuccessful cruise after two Spanish frigates that are said to have gone up to Acapulco. In consequence of the increasing importance of our commercial relations on this side, Sir Thomas Hardy followed us round Cape Horn, in the *Creole*; and has since, upon hearing of the French ship of the line and frigate having also come round, ordered the *Superb* to join him. It is said, however, that they were met the other day in 50 deg. south lat., on their way back; but the *Superb*, I believe, still comes. What the French ships were about here, one cannot at all divine. The Admiral gave out that his object was simply to look after the French interests; but they have none scarcely here, as they have no trade to speak of. He made himself and his nation very unpopular in Chili by refusing to salute the Governor of Valparaiso unless he was first saluted; and by not visiting the Government at Santiago. Both of these things Sir Thomas Hardy did, which will have a good effect, although they were very well disposed towards us before. All the trade with Europe almost is in our hands, and they like our manufactures. An immense trade is likewise

carried on between Chili and Peru, now wholly almost in our bottoms. The latter is entirely supplied with corn and tallow by the former; and returns sugar, cocoa, salt, and drugs. The great disadvantage to our European trade then is, that the country offers nothing to take back in return for our manufactures but gold and silver. A vast deal of copper has been carried to the East Indies and to France, but that article does not suit our market. The North Americans bring furniture, and I believe little else; they take back copper. Calcutta sends goods peculiar to India, as well as furniture, and, as I said before, her ships take back copper also, all which metal comes from the mines of Coquimbo, therefore all the exports of Chili are limited to corn and tallow to Peru, and to copper elsewhere, besides some skins.

The liberating army in Peru is now supported by the provinces of Peru, whom they have assisted in throwing off the yoke of Spain. Guayaquil, and most of those to the northward of Lima, are of that number: to the southward of Lima, and in the neighbourhood of Cusco, the cause of independence has made little ostensible progress: In men's minds, with the ferment that exists around them, no doubt, however, a change is effusively though slowly working; and unless this expedition from Chili should fail in reducing Lima, we may look forward with tolerable confidence to the emancipation of the whole of Peru not long after the expiration of the present year. If it should fail, however, Chili being exhausted, there is no saying what disastrous consequences might not follow. Some go so far as to say that Chili would again fall into the hands of the Royalists, but I confess that I can see no grounds for such an expectation; for, independent of the regular troops Chili could muster to oppose an invading army, there exists a spirit of hostility in it to their ancient master, that I am satisfied would produce wonders on an emergency. There are about 9000 troops in Lima, the garrison having been lately reinforced by 3,000 men about 4,000 in Cusco; and 2,000 in other parts of Peru, which constitutes a formidable army, as long as the people remain passive, but would prove very inadequate to maintaining their ground in the country against any thing like a general rising against them, backed by an army such as that of San Martin, composed of about 5,000 regulars, well officered, and as many more that has joined his standard since he landed, and whom he has armed; it is reported that he is too severe to be popular. He certainly is a man of much character and firmness, and seems to understand how to manage South Americans. No man surely but he would have carried through the many obstacles he has to encounter. Lord Cochrane has certainly distinguished himself very much here by his conduct in all respects, and the same thing may be repeated of him that I have just observed of San Martin—that no one but he could have triumphed over the immense and continual opposition of the government to his wishes through excessive jealousy. Just before he sailed with this expedition, he felt himself so hampered and maltreated by them, that much as he desired to waive personal considerations, and much as he had hitherto borne, he found himself compelled to send them back his commission, and to declare his intention of meddling no further in their affairs. San Martin, however, declared that he would himself retire, if he would not take it up again; and after much solicitation by O'Higgins, and a triumph over the cabal against him, he consented to resume the command, and 'twas well for the cause of liberty here that he did: there is a party against him in his squadron, under a Captain Guyse, who has been trying to undermine him, and has at length received his deserts by being got rid of, though a brave officer. Lord Cochrane has studiously kept clear of our flag, excepting where it has been found exceeding the limits of commercial neutrality: one vessel he sent into Valparaiso the other day has been condemned for having Spanish property on board; or rather, on recollection, her cargo condemned, but herself liberated. They were trying in the Admiralty Court three other very valuable vessels, two from Cadiz, and one from Rio Janeiro, brought in under the charge of holding Spanish cargoes. I do not know what is expected to be the result.

April 18.—Lord Cochrane has despatched half his squadron 100 miles to the southward with 600 troops, to endeavour to cut off the communication along the coast between the southern provinces and Lima. He went in with the *San Martin*, mounting 60 guns, to pepper the batteries the other day, but calms prevented him from doing any thing, and ten or twelve gun-boats came out to annoy him. Nothing happened but one killed and one wounded in the boats, and one wounded in his ship. The blockade is badly kept when he goes away for any business along the coast—4 vessels got in the other day. He does not appear to be well supported by his captains. His ships are clean and in good fighting order, but in no great discipline, and of course badly found in sails, tacking, &c. Their cables part in calms!

Lady Cochrane, who goes home in the *Andromache* with the deposed Vice-Queen of Peru, was on board the *San Martin* when last engaged with the batteries and gun-boats. She showed much of the heroine, and was with much difficulty persuaded to go below. It is a curious circumstance that the wife of the Admiral of the Chili squadron should be in the same ship with the Vice-Queen of Peru, who had designated her as a *piratessa*, for a five months' passage to England.—*Times*.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

—329—

### Rescuing the Drowned.



SIMPLE AND EFFECTUAL MODE OF RESCUING A DROWNING PERSON.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Mercury.

GENTLEMEN,

Any man, who has ventured to make the experiment, must be well aware of the extreme hazard incurred by the individual who attempts to rescue a fellow-creature from drowning.

Courage or skill are often unavailing upon such occasions; the drowning man generally loses the consciousness of every thing but present danger, and very rarely preserves sufficient presence of mind to avail himself of any proffered assistance, in a way compatible with the safety of the individual who, on the impulse of humanity, may venture his life to extricate him from his pernicious situation. In the agony and delirium of the moment, he may seize his friend with a convulsive and inextricable grasp, which may not only disqualify him from the performance of his humane office, but so entangle his limbs as to prevent his escape, and both may sink together to a premature grave.

Sometime ago, in conversation, or in a periodical work, I met with the hint of a life-preserver, which struck me, at the time as one of the most simple but effectual inventions (if so it may be called) ever suggested by human ingenuity. Although I could not entertain a doubt of its efficacy, yet aware of the frequent discrepancy of theory and practice, I resolved to make the experiment myself, which I took the opportunity of doing with the most satisfactory result, a few evenings since, on board the Floating Bath; and such is my opinion of the great importance of this life-preserver, that I trust your fellow-editors will assist you in making it as public as possible.

Although the plan is so simple as to require very little explanation, I entertain so exalted an opinion of its utility, that I shall accompany my letter with the annexed engraved sketch in order to attract the public attention as much as possible to the subject.

If any of your readers estimate inventions in the inverse ratio of their simplicity, they will smile to hear that the life-preserver which I have so highly extolled, is no more than A HAT and A POCKET HANDKERCHIEF\*; so that every man has, at all times, about his own person, an apparatus which may be the means of saving the life of his fellow-creatures.

With these simple means, any man who can swim may safely venture into the water, with the certainty of rescuing a drowning person. All the preparation, which need not occupy ten seconds, is this:—Spread the handkerchief out on the ground, and place the hat upon it in the centre, with the crown upwards, in the ordinary position of wearing; then gather up the four corners of the handkerchief over the crown of the hat, giving it a few twists, for the greater convenience of grasping with the hand. The hat must then be inverted (the crown downwards) as in the annexed sketch. In this position, any person may safely enter the water; as the cavity of the hat contains a much greater quantity of air, than is requisite to sustain any man. I found that the hat with which I tried the experiment, would almost support me and another person clinging to me; neither of us making the least effort to float by any motion of the hands and feet. The mode I should adopt, however, in using this life-preserver, would be, to give up the handkerchief to the person whose life was in danger, and immediately to disengage myself from him. He would soon discover that he was buoyed up, and would recover his presence of mind; but whether he did or not, it would be of

\* A large silk handkerchief is the best for the occasion.

little consequence, as long as he retained his grasp of the handkerchief. Whilst he was thus supported, nothing could be more easy than to push him to the shore with one hand, swimming with the other.

I have already exceeded the bounds I had prescribed to myself upon this occasion: and shall therefore conclude, with the hope that some of your readers will favour us with their opinions on the subject, after trying the experiment in person. Owing to the establishment of the Floating Bath, we have in Liverpool more expert swimmers than any other town in the kingdom can boast of; and the result of their experience as to the best mode of manoeuvring with this simple apparatus might be of great public utility.

I shall only further add, by way of apology for the unexpected length of this communication, that the first projector, whoever he may be, of this mode of affording assistance to suffering humanity deserves well not only of the British community, but of the world at large.

I remain, your Friend,

### Addresses to the King.

Dublin, August 21.—His Majesty yesterday held his first Levee at the Castle. The attendance was great beyond example. Previous to the Levee, his Majesty held an investiture of the most illustrious Order of St. Patrick, when seven Noblemen, including the Earl of Fingal, were invested with the insignia. Afterwards there was an investiture of the Knights of the Order of the Bath. Previous to the Levee, his Majesty sent for the Earl of Fingal (the premier Catholic Peer of Ireland), to his closet and informed him, that as a special mark of his regard and esteem, he had determined to invest his Lordship with the Order of St. Patrick. His Majesty could not, he said, better express the high sense he entertained of the loyalty of the Catholic body, than by taking this opportunity of declaring to his Lordship that their loyalty and duty appeared to him to entitle them to his Majesty's fullest confidence.

Shortly after the Noble Earl withdrew, the Elders of the Dissenters and the Quakers were severally introduced to his Majesty, who gave them a most gracious reception; the latter suffered their hats to be taken off before entering the presence. The attendance from the Society of Friends consisted of the most eminent persons of that sect; their plain attire and formal peculiarity of manner excited much observation among the brilliant cortage of a crowded Court. The following was the address of the Quakers, which was presented by Mr. Simon Bewry, an eminent Merchant of this city, attended by a large body of Friends;

To George the Fourth, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.  
May it please the King—Thy dutiful and loyal subjects, the Society of Friends in Ireland, commonly called Quakers, at their last yearly meeting held in this city, anticipating thy visit to this country, authorised us to address thee on their behalf on this memorable occasion. We should not do justice to our feelings did we not assure the King that our Society participate in the general joy caused by his presence. Although religiously restrained from demonstrating those feelings by public marks of rejoicing, nevertheless we respectfully offer to the King a sincere and cordial welcome, and congratulate him on his safe arrival upon our shores. We desire that thy visit may not only tend to thy own satisfaction and the joy of thy people, but that an event so auspicious may promote the improvement of Ireland and of her inhabitants, and thus render an important and lasting advantage to the empire. We wish to avail ourselves of the present occasion to renew the declaration of our love and allegiance to thee our King under thy illustrious House. We, as a religious society, have received many privileges; we are therefore bound, both by duty and by gratitude, to fidelity to thy Royal person and Government. We are thankful to the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, that peace generally prevails; we pray that this blessing may continue, and spread wider and wider; and we desire for thee, O King, that thou mayest be enabled, under the influence of that grace which visits the hearts of all men, to rule in righteousness, and be an instrument in the Divine hand to promote that state wherein all nations may join in the holy anthem, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will to all men."

To which his Majesty was graciously pleased to give the following answer:

It is highly satisfactory to me to receive your congratulations on my arrival on this part of my kingdom, and your assurances of attachment to my person and government. The loyalty of your principles, and your regular and peaceable conduct, entitle you to my good opinion and esteem. You may rely upon my constant protection, and on the continuance of those privileges which you now so justly possess.

Then eight Catholic Prelates were introduced in small black silk cloaks, and their gold chains and crosses. The King received their address in the most gracious and condescending manner. They all had the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand. On the back of his Majesty's answer to the address of these Prelates was indorsed, "His Majesty's

most gracious Answer to the Address of the *Roman Catholic Bishop*." This closet reception, and written endorsement upon an official instrument, is deemed by the Catholics to be the first public recognition of their Clergy "as Bishops," which has yet occurred since the enactment of the penal restrictions affecting their body.

His Majesty's answer to the address of the Bishops:—

"I am highly gratified by your congratulation on my arrival in this country, and by the sentiment which you have expressed to my person and throne. It was my earnest wish, in visiting this part of my United Kingdom, that an equal degree of satisfaction might be diffused amongst all descriptions of my faithful subjects in Ireland. That wish is happily and fully accomplished; and I am persuaded that no endeavours will be wanting on your part to cherish and preserve that spirit of loyal union which now pervades and animates the whole community, and which is not less conducive to individual and social happiness, than to the strength and prosperity of the state."

The following was the answer to the address of the Presbyterians:

"The sentiments which you have expressed on my arrival in its part of my dominions are highly gratifying to me, and are entitled to my warmest thanks.

"I have the fullest confidence in your faithful and firm attachment to my person and throne; and you may be assured of my constant protection of those civil and religious liberties which are the birthright of my people.—*Morning Chronicle*.

### Extraordinary Steam Vessel.

UNION STEAM-BOAT.—This boat, the most unique, and perhaps the most splendid ferry boat in the country, was tried on Saturday, and upon Tuesday began to ply regularly at the Dundee ferry; and, were the piers such as to admit of her touching them at all times of tide, there is no doubt but the intercourse by the ferry would be rendered more frequent, in consequence of the increased comfort and safety of the conveyance. The Union is a twin-boat, composed of two hulls, each 76 feet keel 11½ feet beam, and 11½ feet asunder. They are handsomely and substantially built, and well bound together by beams fortified with iron; and the mould and execution do much credit to the taste and skill of Mr. Brown (of Perth), the builder. The whole length upon deck is 92 feet, and the breath about 34. Thirty-two feet of the one end is left about two feet lower than the rest of the deck, and railed in for carriages and cattle; and the doors at the middle of this space are so constructed as to serve for platforms in loading and unloading. Twenty-two feet in the centre are occupied by the machinery, an engine being in each boat, and the paddle wheel acting in the canal immediately between. The engines are of fifteen horses' power each; and as they are connected with the same wheel, they act contemporaneously. So smoothly do they work, that even now, when the parts may be supposed to be stiff, there is hardly any tremor in the boat; and, when the doors which inclose the machinery are shut, there is very little noise. The paddle-wheel has wooden floats, and is so divided, that though each half has only eight floats, the whole acts with the same smoothness as if it had sixteen, and yet the power is not diminished. Notwithstanding the immense size of the boat she obeys her helm very easily. There are two helms, each constructed of a rectangular iron plate, four feet and a half in horizontal direction, and three feet and a half in the perpendicular. The tiller of each is almost ten feet long, and requires two men to manage it properly. The machinery is so constructed as that either end may go foremost; and thus the boat can arrive and depart without the labour or space required for turning round. The reversing of the motion is effected by reversing the action of the valves of the engines. These are opened and shut by an alternated rod, moved by an eccentric block on the shaft of the paddle-wheel. This rod acts upon a double lever, fastened to the rocking shaft of the valves; when it acts on the lower end of the lever, the paddle-wheel moves the one way, and when it acts on the upper end, the wheel moves the other. The lever is made broad in the middle, with a flange round it, which retains the stud on the alternating rod during the time that it is changed from the one end to the other. The rod is raised or lowered by means of a toothed sector, into which a pinion works. The two pinions are on the opposite ends of a rod, which passes under the index table, below which it has a bevel wheel, acted on by a similar wheel, connected with the reversing index. By simply turning this index, the boat passes in less than one minute from motion in one direction to motion in that directly opposite. The boat may be steered by either helms and by working both helms at the same time, it may be turned round in a very small compass. Indeed, though the boat appears huge and unwieldy, yet, in consequence of the impelling power being to the centre, it can be turned in a much smaller compass than a less boat with two wheels. Its motion, too, during a breeze, or across the swell, is much more steady, as a good deal of the disagreeable rolling of a two-wheeled boat arises from the unequal hold which its wheels take of the water.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

### On Finance.

#### PRESENT SYSTEM OF SPECIE PAYMENTS AND DIVIDENDS OF THE FUNDHOLDERS.

To the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*.

SIR,

It is acknowledged that the deficiency of the Consolidated Fund, or in words more easily understood, the amount of sums received was less than the sums paid for the public service in the quarter ended 5th July last, upwards of ten millions of pounds, or about ten and a half millions, equal to or exceeding the amount of dividends due to the fundholders on that day, and that Government having then no means of payment, the Bank paid those dividends in advance, to be repaid out of the revenue to be received in the succeeding quarter, or between 5th July last and 10th October next, as the custom has been most improperly for a long while, but without considering the effect such mode of constant anticipation of each quarter's revenue is calculated to produce, when the issue of 1l. notes has ceased, and the embarrassment inevitable when all notes become payable in specie on and after 1st May next, by the Bank, not by choice, but compulsion, according to a late Act of Parliament.

If the Bank of England should anticipate the quarter's revenue ending 5th January, 1822, by paying the dividends due on 10th October next, as they have done in the last and many former quarters, it is proper to make the public aware, that each and every receiver of any dividend, however large or small in amount, is entitled to demand the whole in coin (gold or silver); for the Bank having ceased to issue 1l. and 2l. notes, no one is obliged to receive larger notes. Each receiver may demand the whole dividend in sovereigns or other coin, as he could before last June demand payment of the whole in 1l. notes, whether the amount be 1l., 10l., 100l., 1000l., or any other sum whatever, no one being compelled to receive his dividend in large notes. But whether, in case the demand of sovereigns, if generally made, can be complied with, the actual state of the Bank treasure can only prove; and as the public are entirely in the dark upon that subject, it is prudent for each individual to err on the safe side, by demanding payment of dividends in sovereigns only, instead of placing a blind confidence by taking large notes. By the present system of anticipation, the Bank will have to advance about eight millions for dividends next October, above ten millions next January, above eight millions in April, 1822, which, added to the ten millions issued for dividends last July, make together 36 millions since the commencement of paying the 1l. and 2l. notes last June in specie. Within a few days after paying the dividends due 6th April, 1822, the Bank are liable to pay all their large notes in cash, the 1st May, 1822, being the day legally fixed for paying all their notes then in circulation, although their ability to do so must be greatly lessened by their payment of 1l. and 2l. notes in cash lately; for no one can assert that the probability of paying a large sum of notes in cash can be greater in May, 1822, from having expended large sums for previous payments in 1821. It is clear, that thereby not only the probability, but the possibility, of making the promised cash payments in 1822 is infinitely less.

One of the gross deceptions of the Funded System is, that the interest is regularly paid; but so long as the interest is paid in Bank notes, and as Bank notes can and are always made for that purpose, this manner of paying proves nothing. The simple proof is—can the Bank give cash for the Bank notes with which the interest is paid? If the Bank can not do this, and I verily believe they cannot; for it is certain that since their stoppage in 1797, above 24 years ago, they never have; it is quite evident that many millions of Bank notes must remain unpaid after 1st May, 1822; and those holders of Bank notes who apply last will be w<sup>o</sup>rst off.

It is quite absurd to suppose that the Bank can pay their notes in cash in 1822, when the amount of the Funded and Unfunded Debt is above 1000 millions, and the dividends thereon nearly 36 millions; although they could not pay their notes issued for the dividends on less than 300 millions in 1797, the amount of which was not 12 millions. Lord Liverpool, Mr. Vansittart, and the Marquess of Londonderry may believe so, but no man of common sense will; they are high in office, and can be foolish with impunity.

I have shewn, that, besides the impossibility of paying the dividends in specie now, which could not be done in 1797, when the amount was one-third only of the present payment, the Bank pretend to anticipate each quarter's amount by paying in advance before, as bankers, they receive payment from Government.—This is monstrously absurd indeed, and shews the folly of their presumption.

It is easy to foresee, that next Session of Parliament the expected Cash Payments on 1st May, 1822, will be again suspended, or a Loan made to repay to the Bank their advances, exceeding already 10 millions.

London, Aug. 18, 1821.

I. A. B.

Monday, April 1, 1822.

—31—

**Conflict at Cumberland-Gate.**

*To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.*

Sir,

Your readiness at all times to give publicity to any circumstance which may promote the cause of truth, has induced me to address a few lines to you on the lamented occurrence at Cumberland-gate, on the 14th of August (at which I was present), and I feel myself impelled to do so, in justice to the memories of the humble and unfortunate individuals who fell on that occasion, as well as from the unsound assertion of some of the Ministerial Papers, that Honey and Francis were killed by the Life Guards "in their own defence."

With regard to the death of George Francis, it has been clearly proved, that he was in no way engaged in any attack upon the military; and the Coroners' Inquest, after the most careful investigation, have decided the point by their verdict of "wilful murder;" a decision formed upon the fullest and most clear evidence, and with the propriety of which every unbiased individual who values properly the life of a fellow-creature must coincide.

In respect to the death of the unfortunate William Honey, I beg to state, in the most positive manner, that the crowd, in the midst of which he was shot, did not at any moment join in the assault upon the soldiery; not a single stone or other missile was thrown from thence; the whole body of people were stationary and quiet; it seemed, in fact, to be a point at which the most peaceable individuals were assembled, for the purpose of separating themselves entirely from the conflict. It was, therefore, a sanctuary against which no murderous weapon should have been directed. At some distance, however, from this last-mentioned spot, and near the corner of Park-lane (which, let it be remembered, is on the opposite side of one of the widest streets in the Metropolis,), many stones had previously been thrown. Why, then, let me ask, did not the valorous soldier (be he officer or private) who fired the fatal pistol, face his enemy? Why turn his back, as it were, upon the only quarter from whence stones had been thrown, and fire into the thickest of a body of people peaceably congregated, and who had thrown no stones at all? Surely, Sir, if he had been acting on the defensive, he would not now have been skulking behind and suffering his comrades to be, one after the other, suspected, but have boldly come forward to avow and justify his conduct. To elucidate the facts of this melancholy occurrence more clearly, I will put a case in point: suppose two individuals to be engaged with each other, the one A, armed with sword and pistol, the other, B, with stones only; A suddenly (for some cause unknown) turns upon his heels and shoots C, a bystander (who had taken no part whatever in the affray) through the heart. Human nature would shudder at the sanguinary act; yet precisely in this manner did Honey, the unfortunate victim, fall. Is there then the shadow of a pretext that he was killed by the Life Guards in "their own defence?"

It is but bare justice here to observe, that I could instance many acts of moderation on the 14th ult. on the part of the Life Guards; but from what I that day saw, I much fear there are many individuals of the regiment who have yet to learn, that when called out by the civil power, they must exert the utmost discrimination and steadiness in the use of their weapons; nor may they cut or slay every one they chance to see, be he active or be he peaceable, whether within the sphere or range of offensive operations, or at a distance from it; or as, in the above case, exercising an undoubted right of viewing quietly and inoffensively the passing events of the day; for if will and licentious conduct be not restrained in time, we may expect, after every row at Knightsbridge or Piccadilly, to see an enraged soldiery start for a shooting excursion along the Strand or Cornhill; and thus *The Courier's* vile principle of "Vengeance" may be carried to a length, which cannot be contemplated but with inward horror.

I trust I shall be excused for presuming to occupy so much of your valuable Paper: but it is a subject upon which no Englishman ought to be passive; nor can I but feel warmly when a subscription for the Life Guards is attempted under the pretext of remuneration; remuneration forsooth, for what? why, for a few scratches received in a conflict, which it has been sworn they themselves provoked, and for which, at to all events, they took ample "vengeance," by the innocent blood they spilt: and all this, too, in the face of a verdict of "Wilful Murder." But let the subscribers to such a Fund remember, that every guinea they give will act as a bribe to the Life Guards to invite other scratches, and the price to be paid for them will be the innocent blood of our fellow-creatures and fellow-subjects.

With you, Sir, who have ever been advocate of truth and justice, I need say but little by way of excuse for having ventured to address you. To rescue the memories of the humble victims from the unsound and calumnious insinuation that they were the aggressors, has been my principal object; I trust my motive will plead my apology; I am sure it would do so successfully, if you had been, as I unhappily was,

London, Sept. 5, 1821.

**AN EYE WITNESS.**

**Law Reports.**

**COURTS OF CONSERVANCY FOR SURREY AND MIDDLESEX.**

**GAS WATER.**

On Saturday, (Sept. 8,) the **Lord Mayor**, as Conservator of the Thames and Medway, held a return Court of Conservancy for the county of Surrey, at the Town Hall, Southwark, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Jury, sworn in at a former Court, to examine into and report upon the present state of the River, particularly as related to the Gas Establishments in the Middlesex district.

After the formal business of the Court had been gone through, the Foreman of the Jury presented the Report, which was read by the officer. It stated that pursuant to the directions given them on the 31st of July last, they had examined the River both above and below the bridge, and presented all well excepting that part of the River by Bankside, where they were surprised to find the nuisance of the discharge of gas-water from the establishment of the Southwark or South-London Gas-Light Company, as bad as ever, notwithstanding that a letter had been written by William Pickley, to their foreman on the 11th of July last, declaring that the nuisance had been abated. The Jury, therefore, again presented that discharge as a nuisance.

The Foreman of the Jury begged leave to state to his Lordship in explanation, that they did not find that the gas-water was now discharged directly from the gas-works, but that it now came from under a saw-yard which was contiguous, and it contaminated to a visible extent of at least 30 yards from the stream. They bottled some of it for experiment, and had found it poisonous to a most serious degree.

The Lord Mayor said, he should order the City Solicitor to prosecute the parties belonging to the establishment from which the nuisance proceeded.

The Court was then dissolved.

The Lord Mayor afterwards held a Court of Conservancy at the Swan Inn, Westminster Bridge, for the County of Middlesex, to receive the return of the Jury sworn in for that district.

The Report made by this Jury presented several nuisances which they found on their way up the river, but principally presented as a nuisance the constant discharge of offensive matter from the gas works, by the Horsesherry, Westminster.

The Lord Mayor said, he would take care that a prosecution should be instituted against the parties from whom the nuisance presented, originated.

**Court of Chancery.**

**LAWYERS' FEES.**

In the course of a motion for reviewing the taxation of a solicitor's bill of costs, the circumstances of which we are not disposed to enter into, a discussion incidentally arose upon the subject of the fees paid to counsel. It appeared, by the statement of Mr. Agar, that, for some years past, a practice had prevailed, which was wholly at variance with any thing of which the Lord Chancellor, when he was at the bar, had any notion. It seems that Counsel, instead of being paid their fees instantaneously, upon the delivery of their briefs, and more particularly with their instructions to draw bills, answers, and the various matters of pleading, are obliged to give credit to their clients—that a great part of the business of their clerks is the keeping running accounts with the solicitors. "Generally," said Mr. Agar, "when the Counsel's demand reached a certain amount, they received regularly from the more respectable class of solicitors drafts upon their bankers for the money; but in many instances they were never paid at all." This had happened to himself to a very considerable amount, and he was sure the same thing had taken place regard to many of his learned friends.

The **Lord Chancellor** appeared to be perfectly surprised at hearing this statement. He had no idea that any thing of the kind prevailed: he thought it a very improper practice. He recollects, when he was a very young man, one of the first fees which he ought to have received was for signing a plea. Having signed it, the attorney put his hand in his pocket, and feeling about, expressed his regret at having forgot to bring any money with him; but from that day to the present he had never seen either the attorney or the fee. Generally speaking, no counsel in his time ever thought himself retained, till he had actually received his fee; and, as an instance of this, he recollects the circumstance of a brief having been delivered to Serjeant Davy, without any indorsement of the fee that should have accompanied it. Some short time after, the client called upon the learned Serjeant, and asked him what he thought of his case. "Think of your case!" replied the Serjeant, drily, "Why, to tell you the truth, I have never been able to look any farther into it than here—" taking up the brief, and pointing to the place where the fee ought to have made its appearance.

Mr. AGAR said the practice had got to an extent beyond any thing his Lordship could imagine. The fact was, it was in a great measure unavoidable. The master, in taxing the costs, allowed the counsel's fees according to the length of the proceedings they had drawn; so that the solicitors could not always know what counsel were entitled to. That practice had a most mischievous consequence with regard to the suitors, and made the proceedings of a Chancery suit unnecessarily expensive; for, if a counsel, employing his utmost ability, compressed a voluminous mass of matter into a very small compass, as he often might do by imposing upon himself additional labour, he would only receive, for drawing a bill perhaps, two guineas; whereas, if he recited and detailed, unnecessarily, a quantity of deeds and documents, swelling the record to an immoderate length, he would perhaps be allowed 16 or 20 guineas. That was one of the 'rules' in the master's office. In truth, the masters in Chancery exercised no talent whatever themselves; they generally left the business to be transacted by their clerks. The whole practice of the court had been altered; formerly, the solicitors drew the bills, answers and pleadings, themselves, and laid them before counsel to peruse and settle; but now the entire labour of drawing pleadings of every description devolved upon the gentlemen without the bar, the solicitors themselves doing little or nothing but laying the instructions and papers before them. When Lord Erskine increased the fees of the solicitors, it was an increase given for what they did not do. Formerly, they had six-pence a folio for drawing the pleadings themselves—now they had a shilling a folio for doing nothing; the whole duty fell on the bar. He threw out these observations in the confident hope that they would, at some time hereafter, meet with the consideration of his Lordship and the other Judges of the Court.

The LORD CHANCELLOR observed, that when he was at the bar, he had paid more to the law-stationer for copying many of the bills he had drawn than the amount of the fees he had received for drawing them.

ATTORNEYS.

BRICHENO v. THORPE.

This was a case somewhat of a singular and novel nature. A solicitor of the name of Day had served his clerkship with Mr. Fisher, who was employed as attorney for the plaintiff in the above cause; and in the course of his duty he had occasion to copy some of the proceedings and documents in the cause, and consequently acquired a general knowledge of the plaintiff's cause. Upon his coming out of his clerkship, and setting up for himself, he was engaged as the solicitor for the defendant; and the motion now made was, that he should not be permitted to act as the defendant's solicitor, on the ground that as clerk to the plaintiff's solicitor, he had obtained that sort of information of which he might enable his client to avail himself in consequence of his previous situation in the office of his adversary's solicitor. The matter having been heard on both sides,

The LORD CHANCELLOR refused to grant the prayer of the motion. He would not make a rule imperative upon one branch of the profession which did not apply to another. Every one knew that counsel, after having been engaged in a cause on one side, were frequently retained and obliged to give their services to the other. He had himself been placed in that situation. During a period of his practising at the Chancery Bar, it was his habit to attend the circuit, and whenever he had been engaged in a Chancery suit, which subsequently became the subject of litigation, by an issue or otherwise, upon the circuit, he uniformly applied to the solicitor of the party whose counsel he had been in the Court of Chancery, desiring to know whether it was intended to retain him in the court below? If he was not so retained, then, rather than not be in the cause at all, he felt himself at liberty to take a brief from the other party.

Mr. AGAR informed his Lordship that no such delicacy prevailed now. A retainer in an original cause was not considered as a retainer in any interlocutory motions or subsequent proceedings. On the contrary, by the universally prevalent custom of the bar, counsel were obliged to take a brief from the solicitor who, in the particular stages of the proceeding, first, offer it. This imposed upon them very painful and unpleasant duties. It often happened that a counsel, who had originally advised proceedings, was called upon to argue against the interest of the client by whom he had in the first instance been employed. The practice, to the extent prevalent at present, had originated in a famous cause—in which one of the parties retained all the leading counsel, so that the junior counsel held all the briefs for the other side in every future proceeding in the suit: it was, therefore, now a rule to take the first brief that offered upon any distinct proceeding, though the counsel had been engaged adversely on some prior occasion.

The LORD CHANCELLOR expressed his astonishment at this system. He thought it was a situation of difficulty in which counsel ought not to allow themselves to be placed. With regard to the present motion, for the reason he had stated, that he would not make a distinction between solicitors and counsel, he should refuse the application.—*Times.*

### Slave Trade.

[FROM THE PLAIN ENGLISHMAN FOR AUGUST].

We have been favoured with the following extract of a very interesting letter just received from an Officer on board his Majesty's ship Tartar, on the coast of Africa, which will prove to our readers the benevolent and judicious exertions of Sir George Collier, Bart. who now commands the squadron on that station:—

At Bonny two slaving vessels were taken by the boats of the Tartar and Thistle; one, indeed, much by the good management of Lieutenant Hagan, commander of the latter vessel. This young man put the prime of all his brig's company into a canoe which had come off, and stowing these, to the number of thirty-five, under the natives, when alongside the Slaver, a Spanish schooner, having on board a gang of the most desperate villains unhung. As it was dark, the surprise was complete; but the tide was so very rapid, that any mischance must have been the certain sacrifice of his entire crew. He, however, fully succeeded; and in this canoe captured the schooner, having 450 slaves, and a most desperate crew of fifty men. The schooner was prepared to resist, having the cannon all primed, and fifty muskets on deck loaded.

As the black people in the canoe were too much under fear of death to betray, when hailed by the Spanish schooner, they answered all was well. In the next moment Hagan and his thirty-five men were on her deck; when the master and others seized the small arms, and kept up a rapid fire, by which three British seamen were wounded; and in the alarm, many of the female slaves, not in irons, leaped overboard, and in a moment were carried away by the sharks, which abound in this part of Africa, and which seem to know a slave vessel as well as a well-trained pointer does his game; I have seen them following in scores.—Whether the crew of this schooner, many of whom, by their language, must be either English or Americans, are apprehensive of some evil for their misdeeds, I know not, but they seem very contrite and full of sorrow—very orderly and penitent: but I verily believe, had these vagabonds had the opportunity, they would have blown up their vessel. In truth I do not think there is a crime of which they have not been guilty—and piracy amongst others. It is remarkable that this schooner is a vessel captured last year; sent to Sierra Leone; released by the famous Mixed Commission for trying prize causes, on the pretence of her being a Patriot Privateer. These vessels are provided with papers and colours of various nations, which they use as best serve their purpose. This schooner is one of those most celebrated for sailing, and belongs to the Havannah.

Lieutenant Marsh, of the Tartar, pushed up the river in quest of a Portuguese, of which we got information; and after receiving the fire of her guns and musketry, boarded and carried her. For firing, the boat's crews contented themselves by giving the Portuguese a most severe drubbing. This vessel, though she had only commenced her slaving a week, had one hundred on board. We had great trouble and anxiety in getting these vessels down the river, the channels of which require great caution in passing; and if you can judge what four hundred people would suffer confined in the between-decks of a Margat hoy, not above three feet six inches high, you may from some opinion of the necessity there was for removing a considerable number of these most wretched beings to the decks of the Tartar, and of liberating them from their horrid slave-room, and from the confinement of irons, as soon as possible. One of the slave vessels captured had been complete in her cargo of human misery only two days, and was waiting a favourable wind to clear the shoals, and yet there were more than thirty cases of the very last stage of dysentery. The dying and the dead were mingled together. The women were comparatively comfortable; and yet there were nearly one hundred confined in a space not four feet high, nor above sixteen feet by nine to sleep in. I can speak to these facts, as I measured every part of these vessels. Their cubs shewed they were not exempt from the dreadful disease which had already commenced amongst the men, and which the nature of slave food, with impure water, invariably produces.

Nothing can be supposed more horrible than the treatment and condition of the slaves in their passage from Africa. Fever and dysentery let loose; the hatches scarcely open to admit sufficient air even to prevent immediate suffocation! Perhaps you will hesitate in believing that the thermometer, which stood in the shade at only 85, rose immediately at the entrance of the slave-room to 110, and at last to 115. The fortunate circumstance of the Portuguese slave ship, *Donna Engenia*, having only a small proportion of her intended cargo on board, afforded great relief; and though it was with extreme concern we were compelled to increase that number to 200, by relieving the other prizes, so frightfully crowded. It is not possible to make these wretched slaves comprehend their improved prospects by change of masters; and though, for their relief and comfort, their irons were ordered to be taken off, the officer in charge of the vessel must resort to this horrible mode of security, if any symptoms of disturbance shall be observed.

## ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—333—

### An Accidental Discovery.

On Wednesday the 13th of March there appeared in the **JOHN BULL OF THE EAST**, a Leading Article on the King's Visit to Ireland, which attracted our attention so forcibly that on the following day, we noticed it under the head of "A Third Editor of **JOHN BULL**." In this comment on it, we said "Any one who will take the trouble to look attentively at the Leading Article of yesterday's **BULL**, on His Majesty's Visit to Ireland, will be convinced that it is the production of a new pen, a third Editor, or a Supernumerary "Talent," kept at hand perhaps, to throw into the scale where the ordinary weight is insufficient to preserve the balance," &c. &c. We then went on to shew the inconsistencies and contradictions of this Third Editor, and to analyze this Leading Article as a piece of original writing belonging to the Conductors of the **JOHN BULL**, whether from a new pen as we supposed, or from an old one. Our Readers will remember also, that out of this very subject arose a Correspondence of some length, in which various anonymous writers took a part on both sides of the question, **JOHN BULL** himself remaining silent during the whole of this time, and never once using an expression that could tend to undeceive us in our impression or belief. About the same period also, there were serious complaints made against us in the pages of **JOHN BULL** for *wilfully* omitting to state the *names* of certain English Papers from which various articles on "Irish Adulation" &c. had been copied, although no one could say we attempted to palm these articles off upon our readers as our own; —but it was satisfactorily shewn that the said complainants were as much in the wrong in this instance as they had been proved to be in others. From **JOHN BULL**'s silence during all this outcry, we were justified in drawing two inferences at least: —one, that the Leading Article on the King's Visit was really an original article written for the pages of his Paper, whether by himself or some friendly assistant; and the other that he *approved* of the censures passed on us for a supposed *wilful* omission of the source from which any particular articles, not written exclusively for our pages, were drawn.

What was our surprize, then, and what will be that of our Readers, to learn, after all this hubbub, that not a single line of the Leading Article of the **JOHN BULL** of March 13, was written in Calcutta, but that the whole of it was copied *verbatim et literatim* from the English Sunday Paper, called "THE GUARDIAN." A more barefaced plagiarism than this, we have never witnessed; and it would have been reprehensible in the extreme, even if no comment had arisen out of it; since it was clearly meant to be passed off as an Editorial article, written here, —being put under the head of "Calcutta" instead of "London," —being unmarked either by inverted commas at the beginning, or the name of the Paper at the end, —being followed by a paragraph of the Editor's own, advertizing to a Letter on Indigo in a future page, printed in the same type and manner as the former, as if they were from the same pen, —and *then* commencing the English Extracts under the head "OBSERVER, OCTOBER 7," to indicate that all before it belonged to "CALCUTTA, MARCH 13, 1822," under which head it was placed. We repeat, that if no controversy had ever arisen out of this subject, it would have been reprehensible, as the drift and intention of the forgery is now so palpable and manifest. But when such controversy arose, and when his Political Opponent was *censured in his own pages* for the mere omission of a *name* in an article professedly given as from an English Paper, and not palmed off as the Editor's own, —when all this happened, who, but **JOHN BULL**, would have been disingenuous enough to remain silent? Who, but himself, would not have said, "The Leading Article in yesterday's Paper, supposed to have been written here in Calcutta, because put under that head, was copied from an English Paper, and the name omitted" for certain reasons if there were any, or by the negligence of the Printer if that were the cause? Who, but himself, when this subject was so particularly urged against us as a *crime*, would not have said "Omissions of names may sometimes happen without an intention to deceive, often because the *original* source of the paragraph may be lost in

passing through various Papers, often from hurry, and at other times from neglect of positive orders to the Printers, &c." —But, well might the Editor, who *must* have been conscious of this deception, —who *must* have *seen* that ourselves and the Public generally believed the Leading Article to have been original, —well might *he* remain silent; since the very accusations which he lent his pages to have urged against us, though so satisfactorily disproved, were such, as by speaking out, he would have shewn to be more applicable to himself, without the power of answering or even explaining them away! What the Public will think of this specimen of candour and fair dealing, we know not: —but we think it must weaken their reliance on the sincerity of his Editorial labours at least, however much and deservedly his private conduct and character be entitled to respect; —a distinction which we are as ready to make as any of his warmest personal friends can be disposed to do,

This is certainly to be numbered among one of the evils of a **Free Press**, that it is calculated to detect and expose practices of this kind; and therefore it is no doubt a very offensive engine to those who would rather such practices should pass undetected and unexposed. Let us no longer wonder then at the zeal which **JOHN BULL** manifests in republishing all that can tend to bring a **Free Press** into odium, or at his winning over to his cause all those who like himself would wish to have their little "privileges of office" and "errors of duty," covered with a veil, and not exposed to the profane eye of vulgar scrutiny.

We must not omit to mention the manner in which this "Accidental Discovery" was made. A Gentleman having sent to us for perusal, several late Numbers of a Provincial Paper entitled "The MONTROSE, ARBROATH, AND BRECHIN REVIEW; AND FORFAR AND KINCARDINESHIRE ADVERTISER," in which we expected to find only a few paragraphs of a miscellaneous nature, we were surprised at meeting in the Number for Friday, August 31, the very first that we opened to read, the whole of the Leading Article of the **JOHN BULL IN THE EAST** for March 13, 1822; given in the latter Paper as *original*, but in the former placed among the Extracts from the London Prints and containing at its close, the word "GUARDIAN." If the same article appeared in the **GUARDIAN** of August 1821, and the **JOHN BULL** of 1822, since it could not have gone from the **BULL** to the **GUARDIAN**, it must have come from the **GUARDIAN** to the **BULL**, —unless the age of miracles be supposed to have returned, and the same sentiments to have suggested themselves in the same words at London and Calcutta, to the minds of two Leading Advocates of the same cause.

We have very little room left to notice the singular mixture contained in the Paper of Saturday. It commences with an article in praise of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and the School Book Society, both having for their object the dissemination of knowledge through the medium of the **Press**; and follows it up with a long Letter of **CARNATICUS** on the subject of a **Free Press** in India, endeavouring to shew the *evil* to which the employment of this Engine is likely to give rise! —Those who remember the outcry raised against us in the pages of the **OLD JOHN BULL** for publishing a former Letter of this same **CARNATICUS** —which was called "an infamous Libel upon the whole of the Bengal Army," and which some silly persons thought us criminal for republishing, although done for the express purpose of inviting that refutation which its absurdities soon received through our pages, —will perhaps wonder at **CARNATICUS** being in such favour with the **NEW BULL**. —But *he*, or any other writer who should have published Libels not only on Bengal Army, but upon every branch of the Indian Service —would be forgiven all, and taken into immediate favor "in high places" if he would only wipe out the memory of his former errors by opposing the Freedom of the Indian Press. Like Charity, this is a Robe which will cover a multitude of Sins, —and wash away all other stains. The complete and triumphant refutation which was given to almost every statement and opinion of **CARNATICUS** in his Letter on the Bengal Army, (of which, as being an Indian Soldier, he might be supposed to know *something*) will weaken the credit or importance that might otherwise have

been attached to his Letter on the Bengal Press, (of which it was not to be expected that he should know *any thing*.) We have no doubt that some of our able Correspondents will refute every position of this Letter of CARNATICUS as satisfactorily as they did the former, and we shall therefore find room for it if possible tomorrow. For the present, however, we need only to extract *one* out of a hundred absurd and untenable positions of this blundering writer, to shew his calibre. For instance, he says:—

*"To subject our Highest Authorities to the animadversions of those about them and under them in India, will but be to WEAKEN the strength of our Administration in that quarter; to REDUCE the dignity of our Government in the eyes of the Natives; and to subject to CONTEMPT and DISREGARD the first and leading Functionaries in our Service."*

Let us place in juxtaposition with this, the ever memorable sentiments of the very first and leading Functionary himself, delivered to the world at large, and in the presence of all the other Functionaries of the Service, apparently joining in the admiration and tacitly admitting the justice and propriety of sentiments, which, if they disapproved as a rule of action, it was their undoubted duty to have disavowed and marked with their solemn and public protest. This Leading Functionary proudly said, and we shall ever remember the delight with which we heard such sentiments:

*"If our motives of action are PURE, it must be wise to render them INTELLIGIBLE throughout an Empire, our hold on which is OPINION. Further, it is SALUTARY for Supreme Authority, when its intentions are MOST PURE to look to the CONTROL of PUBLIC SCRUTINY. While conscious of rectitude that Authority CAN LOSE NOTHING OF ITS STRENGTH BY ITS EXPOSURE TO PUBLIC COMMENT. On the contrary it acquires an INCALCULABLE ADDITION OF FORCE."*

We need not repeat the rest: for it is graven on the memory of every Englishman in India; and nothing can blot it out from the "record." Does JOHN BULL think, then, that our faculties are so obtuse, as to have already forgotten these memorable sentiments of the Highest Authority of the Land, pronounced on the most solemn occasion, in the most open and magnanimous manner, and listened to with approbation by all the secondary Authorities in whose presence they were proclaimed? or that the opinions of an obscure Writer like CARNATICUS, of whom all that is known is, that he wrote Letters on the Mahratta Campaign and Indian Armies, which were full of ignorant misstatements and blundering misconceptions of matters better known even to some Cadets than to himself,--are to be set up as worthy the same attention with those of the Governor General of India, whose rank, years, wisdom, and acknowledged high character, are themes of perpetual admiration and respect? Surely this is not the way to shew homage to Authority. If it be, it is an Irish way indeed, and more truly like a *Bull* than any thing that is usually honored with that name.

#### Marriage.

At Trincomalee, on the 18th of February, CHARLES COLLIER, Esq. Staff Surgeon, to Miss JOHNSTONE, eldest Daughter of the Reverend J. JOHNSTONE, of Cross Michael, Scotland.

#### Birth.

At Chowringhee, on the 29th ultimo, Mrs. J. S. NYSS, of a Daughter.

#### Deaths.

On the 27th ultimo, Mr. DOMINGO D'ROZARIO, aged 60 years.

At Cochin, on the 19th of February, on board the PARTRIDGE, the infant Son of ROBERT BAXTER, Esq. of the dysentery, aged 4 months. He was a most promised Child, and died most deeply lamented by his sorrowing parents.

#### HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY. H. M.

Morning .....	10 40
Evening .....	11 5
Moon's Age. ....	10 Days.

#### Gouvernement Francais.

à M. l'Éditeur du Journal de Calcutta.

MONSIEUR,

J'ai lu avec beaucoup d'étonnement, dans votre Journal du 13 (23) Mars, les réflexions d'un pretendu Voyageur, sur l'exécution qui a eu lieu à Chandernagor le 17 de ce mois.

S'il est permis à un Vieux Colon de radoter, celui qui se pique du rôle d'observateur devoit en sentir tout le ridicule, et surtout, se dispenser d'en rapporter les absurdités!

C'est sur un article de la Charte (qui dit, Liv. I. Chap. I, tout condamné à mort aura la tête tranchée,) que s'appuie, Mr. Le Voyageur, pour reprocher au Chef du Gouvernement d'avoir modifié la peine que doit supporter un individu atteint et convaincu d'avoir commis un homicide volontaire; et d'avoir fait pendre le criminel au lieu de l'avoir fait décapiter.

Certes, il faut être bien étranger au mode de la législature des colonies pour s'appuyer des semblables raisonnemens! Et comment peut-on ignorer que cet article de la Charte n'est applicable qu'en Europe? Et que les colonies, d'après une ordonnance du Roi, rendu en 1819, et motivé par l'article 73ième de la Charte, doivent être gouvernées par des loix particulières!

Il est vrai que le Roi a ordonné qu'il sera fait un travail particulier pour l'administration de la justice dans nos comptoirs de l'Inde; mais en attendant cette nouvelle institution S. M. a décidé qu'ils continueraient à être regis par les anciennes loix en vigueur dans ces mêmes comptoirs.

Les instructions du Roi donné à Mr. Le Gouverneur Général, portent, Article 29, "Les affaires criminelles s'instruiront et se jugeront suivant les formes prescrites par l'ordonnance de 1670." Or, je le demande à Mr. le Voyageur, observateur, depuis combien d'années le gibet a-t-il été aboli en France? Je lui demanderai aussi, comment il a osé avancer que la question avait été aboli en France avec le gibet? Il ignore donc, que l'on n'a cessé de pendre en France que depuis que la guillotine y a été inventée, sous le règne de Louis XVI.

Il parait que Mr. le Voyageur aime beaucoup à reprocher les époques! .... J'espere cependant qu'il souviendra qu'en 1670 on ne décapitait pas en France.

Je ne parlerai pas des autres réflexions qu'il met dans la bouche du Vieux Colon. Je n'écris pas pour venger les autorités; mais seulement pour convaincre Mr. le Voyageur que si l'on a pendu à Chandernagor, au lieu d'y décapiter, comme il s'est efforcé de démontrer qu'on aurait du le faire; c'est que les loix qu'il invoque en témoigne de son assertion, proseraient formellement ce genre d'exécution dans l'Inde.

Du reste, il est permis à un étranger de n'être pas mieux versé dans les institutions législatives d'un autre pays que le sien; et tout porte à croire que l'auteur de l'article auquel je répondre n'est pas né en France: s'il en était autrement, la honte l'aurait certainement empêché d'achever quand il eu à écrire les dernières phrases, si indignes d'un Français, et un style des quelles j'ai cru reconnaître cette même plume qui, trempé dans le fiel, s'est déchaîné avec tant d'animosité contre le gouvernement Français, dans un article inseré dans votre Journal du 23 Fevrier, relativement à la pretendu insurrection de Caricai; et à faire dans une Gazette étrangère, en empruntant le nom de Français, des aveux (\*) qui eussent été trop pénible pour un de mes compatriotes, et qui ressemblaient beaucoup au trait de vengeance d'un ennemi juré de notre nation.

Agreez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma parfaite considération.  
Chandernagore le 2 Mars 1823. — UN DE VOS ABONNES.

(\*) Expression propre de l'auteur de l'article du 23 Fevrier.

#### BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills,.....	4 per cent.
Ditto on Government Bills of Exchange,.....	3 per cent.
Interest on Loans on Deposit,.....	3 per cent.
Bank Shares—Premium,.....	29 & 30 per cent.

Monday, April 1, 1822.

—335—

**Question of Etiquette Answered.**

SIR, *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

In an extract from the MADRAS COURIER, I observe a Letter from a certain TEDDY TEASER, proposing as a Quære? "Whether the lady or the gentleman should first acknowledge their mutual acquaintance with each other *en passant*?"

Will you have the kindness, Mr. Editor, to tell him from me, that *selon l'Etiquette* it is decidedly the *Lady's Province* to bow first. For my part the *Women* are always very particular in giving me the first salutation; but I seldom return the compliment, as the *creatures* are sure to *presume* upon one's condescension.

If I was sure that TEDDY would not *call me out*, (for I am not a *fighting character*) I would say that he must be a *bad style of man* to think that such an established rule could admit of a question.—I am, Sir, no man's obedient Servant.

Calcutta, March 28, 1822.

**AN EXQUISITE  
EAST INDIANS.**

SIR, *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

I duly appreciate the philanthropic suggestion of the Writer of the letter to the Most Noble the Governor General, alluded to in your Paper of yesterday, for *ameliorating the condition of EAST INDIANS*; though I can hardly suppose him to be in earnest, when he proposes, as a *means* of accomplishing that object, the settling them, as Colonists, in an unoccupied tract of land on the North-West Coast of America.

I fear the Writer has not well considered the magnitude of the difficulties which oppose the prosecution of so wild a project, or that he is one of those visionary Speculatists who form their ideas of the practicability of carrying a scheme into execution by the facility with which it is suggested. Plans more rational, advantageous, and feasible, than the extravagant one of raising a Colony in America, by *Volunteer East Indians*, and more worthy certainly of being adopted, as involving comparatively much less expence in the outset, and holding out a far greater prospect of eventual success, have been repeatedly brought through the medium of your useful JOURNAL, to the notice of that class of the Community for whose benefit they were intended; but I am not aware that they have produced any effect beyond that of affording a subject for discussion for a few days, or that any definite measures have been resolved upon by those most interested in the question, indicative of a determination on their part to judge by the test of *Experiment*, how far the Schemes which have, at different times lately been suggested for their advancement in the scale of Society, were calculated to answer the end they had in view.

A great deal; Sir, has been *said*, and you know, as well as I do, how much has been *done*. When resources that are within reach fail, when the means of attaining respectability and independence, pointed out by the Writers of the excellent "APPEAL in behalf of INDO-BRITONS," and "THOUGHTS how to better the condition of INDO-BRITONS," shall be no longer available, it will be quite time enough for EAST INDIANS to turn their thoughts to more remote and hazardous speculations; but I trust they will never, so long as the avenues to moral and intellectual improvement, to fame and wealth, are open to them in their native country, suffer themselves to be deluded by the vain hope of acquiring distinction in the pursuit of such an *Ignis Fatuus* as the project of establishing a new Colony on the North-West Coast of America.

The Projector may mean well; but I doubt much whether, under the ostensible guise of a Friend to EAST INDIANS, his real intention be not to throw an air of derision over the efforts making by a few spirited and enlightened members of that Community, to emerge, as a Body, from the state in which they are unfortunately placed at present.

March 28, 1822.

**A POOR SCRIBE.**

**Indo-Britons.**

SIR, *To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

The plan of the writer of the "long paper in the form of a Letter to the Most Noble the Governor General of India," of which you have given an outline in your JOURNAL of to-day, is really very little better than the sapient speculations of that Noble Traveller, Lord Valentia; who, dreading the consequences which may result to the mother-country, from the increase of Indo-Britons, writes thus:—

"The most rapidly accumulating evil of Bengal, is the increase of half-cast children. They are forming the first step to Colonization, by creating a link of union between the English and the Natives. In every country where this intermediate cast has been permitted to rise, it has ultimately tended to the ruin of that country. Spanish America, and St. Domingo, are examples of this fact. Their increase in India is beyond calculation; and though possibly there may be nothing to fear from the sloth of the Hindoos, and the rapidly declining consequence of the Mussulmans, yet it may be justly apprehended, that this tribe may hereafter become too powerful for control. Although they are not permitted to hold offices under the Company, yet they act as clerks in almost every mercantile house, and many of them are annually sent to England to receive the benefit of an European education. With numbers in their favour, with a close relationship to the Natives, and without an equal proportion of that pusillanimity and indolence which is natural to them, what may not in time be dreaded from them? I have no hesitation in saying, that the evil ought to be stopt; and I know no other way of effecting this object, than by OBLIGING every father of half-cast children, to send them to Europe, and PROHIBITING their return in any capacity whatever. The expense that would thus attend upon children, would certainly operate as a check to the extension of Zananas, which are now but too common among the Europeans; and this would be a benefit to the country, no less in a moral, than in a political view."

After the above quotation, it would be unnecessary to make any comments upon the contents of the letter to the Governor General of India.

I take this opportunity to acquaint my countrymen, who may feel disposed to indulge in excusable but unreasonable despondency, that all the Pamphlets and Papers lately written on the subject of ameliorating the condition of Indo-Britons, have already been transmitted to England, to the address of a few Noble-men, and of several Gentlemen both in Parliament, and in the East India Direction: and that I am now engaged in arranging and compiling these Pamphlets and Papers for publication in one volume, to be preserved in a collected form in our Libraries; in order, the better to promulge the ideas therein contained, to guide the minds of our children, and to instil into them sentiments worthy the descendants of Britons.

I pray my countrymen will take courage, and not despond. Our amelioration cannot be the work of a day, a month, or a year; or even a decade of years. The early history of every people, ought to inspire us with hope and resolution. We must labour incessantly, and labour long, before we can taste the fruits of our exertions. If Societies and Associations cannot be immediately formed, let every Indo-Briton exert his influence within the circle of his particular acquaintance, to correct everything that is unbecoming, and to recommend every thing that is good; let immorality and irreligion be shunned; let vice and ignorance be degraded, and virtue and talents exalted; let sober and moderate ideas be inculcated; and let every parent, feeling the peculiarity of his own situation, so educate and rear his children as to give them a name and a place in society.

March 27, 1822.

**ASIATICUS.**

—336—

## Indian News.

The following Extract of a Letter from Padang has been handed to us for publication:

*Padang, 22d Feb. 1823.*—The Governor's attention is greatly taken up by the War in the Hills: there is a force of 400 Europeans there commanded by a Colonel. The Governor is also there; but as yet we have received no accounts of any thing worth mentioning having occurred. The Padres are still bold, and Trade is in consequence dull; but as soon as the Hills are opened it is expected to be brisk.

*Delhi, March 1, 1823.*—A fire broke out here last night in a Bungalow occupied by Captain WROTTESLEY, which in a short time assisted by a strong wind, reduced the premises to ashes, and nearly the whole of the property of that officer; together with every thing belonging to Mrs. WROTTESLEY and her three children. The loss is estimated at more than 10,000 Rupees. Had the wind blown from any other quarter, the whole of the lines and many other premises must have been destroyed likewise. When we first came to Delhi, it was no doubt in some degree necessary to have the Cantonments of our troops within the City walls; but it seems to a common observer, that this is no longer required in a large City like this, with a considerably condensed and rapidly increasing population.

*Agricultural Report, Delhi, March 1822.*—The number of cloudy and rainy days in December and January, in a small degree injured the Crops, but the places that have escaped tell a two-fold tale of advantage. The Barley has suffered more than the Wheat, the Gram very little, and the smaller pulse not at all. In fact this season of Rubhee may be considered most abundant. We get now nearly a maund of Gram for a Rupee, and 32 or 33 seers of Wheat; but the Zumeendars (by their improvidence, indolence, and it is to be feared too often want of good principles), who are ever fated to be in the grasp of the Sircars, are now making their hard bargains with the latter to deliver nearly double this quantity for a Rupee by and by, when the crops are off the ground.

*Calcutta, April 1.*—On Friday night, about sun-set, Calcutta was visited with a violent storm of wind and rain accompanied for sometime with continual peals of thunder and bright flashes of forked lightning. The claps of thunder were in several instances so loud that it would have been impossible to distinguish them from reports of artillery fired off in the immediate vicinity; and they seemed to break with a horrible crash on some of the surrounding buildings. We have not heard, however, that any injury has been sustained in the city. After intermitting a short period, the rain recommenced, and poured down in abundance till nearly eight o'clock, leaving the air delightfully cool, with a high wind during the night. We hope the quantity of rain that has now fallen will be sufficient for the Indigo Planters finishing their sowings and be the forerunner of a prosperous season.—On Saturday, there was a similar storm, with thunder, lightning, and rain.

The following piece of intelligence has been communicated to us by a Correspondent. "It is reported that Colonel J. M. Johnson of this Establishment was likely to succeed Sir Hudson Lowe in the Government of St. Helena. The circumstance has been mentioned to me in a letter from Mr. — but only as a rumor."

An unfortunate accident happened last week at No. 2, Sootkin's Lane: A Widow of the name of Kavanagh was inspecting some repairs making on her house, and leaned against a Venetian that opened down to the floor, which gave way and she was precipitated upwards of 12 feet, the Venetian falling above her; she was taken up with one shoulder dislocated and otherwise much bruised.

## Passengers.

\* Passengers per CORNWALL, from China to Bombay.—Lieutenant Colonel Wright, Mr. Maitland, Lieutenant and Mrs. Crawley.

## Letter from Moorshedabad.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

The weather here has for some days past been unsettled: on the 16th we had fresh breezes from the southward and eastward, with some rain, thunder, and lightning: the clouds still continuing at intervals to threaten, on the afternoon of the 24th, we had a strong gale from the S. E. at first, but subsequently ranging all round the compass, with heavy rain, much thunder and lightning. This fall of rain will, if general, prove highly beneficial to the Indigo Planters in this neighbourhood, by affording an opportunity of getting their seed in the ground, and the Ryotts will be enabled to prepare their lands for the reception of grain.

On Monday evening, Past Twelve o'Clock and a Rainy Night, the Ballet of *William Tell* and *The Padlock*, were performed at the Berhampore Theatre. In the first piece the characters in general were ably supported, particularly BANTUM and DOZEY. The performer who filled the part of SQUIR appears greatly improved, and maintained it with much credit to himself: in short the whole went off extremely well.

The Ballet of *William Tell* depends entirely upon the scenery and dresses, which were very appropriate: the Water fall and Alpine bridge was excellent, and received with much applause. *The Padlock* was equally successful with the preceding: the parts of MUNGO and URSALA were admirably hit off; in short, we have not seen any performance at this Theatre that passed off with greater *éclat*, tho' it was with much regret we observed that the efforts to please were made to a very thin House.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servt,

Moorshedabad, March 27, 1822.

DRAMATICUS.

## Bengalpore Newspaper.

Contents of the SUMMOCHAR CHUNDRIKA.—No. IV.—1.—Judicial Sale.—2.—Arrival of Dr. Peres, Oculist.—3.—Of a Persian Newspaper about to be published, and to be entitled the "EMULUKHUN" or "The Ocean of Intelligence."—4.—Ram Kristno Day informs the Public not to entrust his sons, Bishonot Day and Gonesh Chunder Day, two minors, with any thing, as he will not repay it afterwards.—5.—Of the Translation of the OKHONOUSUFFA.—6.—Two lines of Poetry in praise of the name given to this Paper.—7.—Civil Appointments.—8.—Repeal of the Town-duty on fire-wood, from and after the 20th March.—9.—Of Medicines being distributed gratis from the Company's Dispensary to all persons in the Service of the Company.—10.—Of a Library in the Botanic Garden.—11.—Of Chunder Coomar Thacoor's safe return from his trip.—12.—An account of a dreadful hurricane accompanied by a storm of rain and thunder at Burdwan.—13.—An account of Mr. Albert's house being burnt by the fall of a thunder bolt.—14.—Of Capt. H. Pottesley's Bungalow in Delhi being set on fire on the 28th day of January.—15.—Of two persons being crushed under the wheels of a buggy; one of whom has died, and another is almost expiring.—16.—The digging of the Circular Tank at Potoledanga.—17.—Of the Science of Astronomy being revived in its former splendor.—18.—Advertisement.—19.—Address to Correspondents.—20.—An answer to what had been said in the last number of the SUMMOCHAR CHUNDRIKA, respecting the Natives' neglect of the study of their own language in order to engage themselves in the study of those of foreigners.—21.—Another address to Correspondents.—22.—A letter, asking the Editor of the SUNGAUD COWDUDY his reason for having inserted in his Paper the translation of the article on Concremation from the CALCUTTA JOURNAL.—23.—An Essay on Pride and Calumny.

## Shipping Departures.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Mar. 29	Emile	French	M. Queren	Bourbon

## Stations of Vessels in the River.

MARCH 29, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—FUTTAK ROHOMAN, (Arab)—MARY ANN, outward-bound, remains.

Kedgeree.—CONDE DO RIO PARDO (P.) outward-bound, remains.

New Anchorage.—H. M. S. GLASGOW.—BRITANNIA.

Sangar.—CONFIANCA (P.) and ESPERANCA (P.) gone to Sea on the 28th instant.